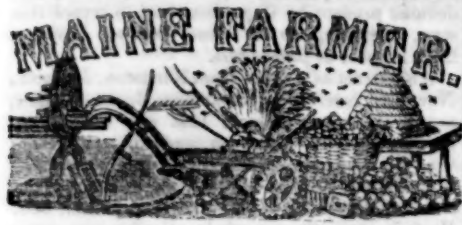




VOL. XVIII.

AUGUSTA, MAINE, THURSDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 28, 1850.

NO. 48.



Our Home, our Country, our Brother Man.

Hoven in Horses.

It sometimes happens that cattle, and sometimes horses, after eating heartily of green, succulent food, like clover, for instance, take in more than their organs can digest. The material being ground up and mixed with the moisture and juices of the body, and kept at the usual temperature of the body, begins to ferment, and the gas produced having no means to escape the animal swells to an enormous size, until the pressure stops the circulation and it dies. This is called Hoven, or Hoven, and is much more common in cattle than in other animals. In cattle relief may be given by stabbing them in the space between the hip bone and ribs. A knife inserted in this place enters the stomach or maw, and by putting in a tube the gas escapes through it, and relief is given. As this cut is made through no vital parts, the animal operated upon usually recovers.

We have seen three cases of hoven, or hoven, in the horse, all of which proved fatal. The organization of the horse is so different from that of an ox that there seems to be no very convenient place to make an orifice. The stomach of the horse is small, but the maw (or colon) is large and convoluted, occupying almost the whole of the lower part of the abdominal cavity. If it will do to make an opening anywhere, it should be made in the centre of the belly. By turning the horse on his back, and perforating in this place, you penetrate directly into the colon, and the gas can pass out through a tube, if one be placed there.

We have never known this tried, and only recommend it as the last resort, for, unless relief be obtained from any medicines given in the early stages, the animal is sure to die. Sometimes this disease is brought on in horses in this way. The horse is worked until he is hungry, and grain is given him. He eats it greedily, he is then started to work again. The haste of the horse while eating it prevents its being mixed thoroughly with the saliva, and perhaps it is not thoroughly masticated. This, together with being started to labor again, prevents digestion, and fermentation takes place, an enormous quantity of gas is formed, and death ensues.

Last week we were called to examine a horse belonging to Mr. Lozier Whitman, of Winthrop, which had just returned from a trip of about ten miles out and ten miles in, or about twenty miles travel in all. The horse was swelled to an enormous degree, and fell dead in the course of twenty minutes after we saw it.

The history of this case is this. The horse had been fed regularly on corn, for months. On the morning previous to death a feed of new corn, or corn of this year's growth, perfectly ripe and sound, was given him. It had been observed by Mr. W. that the animal had not been quite so lively and free, for a few days past, as usual, but no other signs of sickness were manifest. On opening it, after death, there was found something like a dropsy of the uterus, and a slight inflammation of the intestines. There was not grain enough, nor other food, in the stomach and maw (colon) to warrant such a degree of inflation as had taken place.

Whether the slight degree of disease, above mentioned, could have anything to do in causing the condition of things which produced death, we cannot say. The animal was not driven hard, and was in good plight. There are at least two things to be ascertained in such cases. First, what is the nature of the gas thus formed? This must be found out by chemical tests. It can be very easily collected for that purpose. Second, what is best to give to absorb this gas and check the fermentation? If it be carbonic acid gas, large doses of lime water will absorb it. If it be sulphuretted or carburetted hydrogen, we must resort to something else that will combine with it. Some of the preparations or solutions of lead might absorb sulphuretted hydrogen. It will be well, also, to try the stabling in the place above mentioned. The horse will die if it be not done, and he can do no more if it prove unsuccessful.

Bees Swarming in November.

We have been boasting of flowers and roses which have flourished in our latitude during this month of November. We now record the fact that a swarm of bees belonging to our neighbor, S. Sewall, of Winthrop, not exactly liking their quarters, took it into their heads to swarm, last week. The following is the statement which we have received from him in regard to them:

FRIEND HOLMES:—Last summer I had a large swarm of bees come out of a subterranean hive. I put them into an extra size common hive. They did not seem to attend to their business with that spirit and enterprise peculiar to the bee. They made about comb and honey enough to protect and sustain them through last winter. This last summer they made considerable additional comb, and I presume filled it with honey. I paid but little attention to them, until about three weeks ago, when I found the hive very light, and discovered, on looking under, that the new made comb had separated from the old and fallen to the bottom of the hive—it contained no honey—I took it away, and discovered the bees in their old quarters on the top of the hive, and I should judge with little or no store of honey. I had concluded to put the hive under cover, and feed them this winter, when, to my surprise, at 12 o'clock, M., Nov. 13, they swarmed. They remained about 15 minutes in the air, and then returned to the hive. At 2 o'clock they rallied again, and after their usual aerial maneuvers, lighted on a neighboring tree, and attached themselves to a large limb. They remained there about an hour. I then started them off, hoping they would go back to the hive and remain there,

as I presumed I could do nothing with them this winter, having no comb to live in. They immediately flew up from the ground, and took their former place on the tree, not one returning to the hive. I therefore concluded to let them remain through the night. The next morning, the thermometer at 34°, I brushed them all off into an empty hive. They were entirely stiff, and showed no signs of life. They continued in that torpid state all the next day, and at evening I put them into my carriage house, where they still remain inactive. What further disposition I shall make of them I am undetermined.

On examining the hive from which they swarmed, I found it destitute of bees and honey, and without any paper or breeding comb, in which they generally live and keep open for spare room.

Fecundity of Swine.

One of the most prolific of our domestic animals, is the sow. We used to be amused formerly by the arithmetical calculations made by the late Samuel Wood, Esq., of Winthrop, in relation to the number of swine he could raise in ten years, from a healthy sow. He based his calculations from the fecundity of some he was in the habit of keeping; but as he seldom kept more than two or three years before he slaughtered it, he never demonstrated it by actual experiment.

We were reminded of these calculations by reading, the other day, a paragraph on the same subject, in Stephens' "Farmer's Guide." The writer goes into the calculation a little more closely than our venerable friend used to, and for the curiosity of the thing, we give below a part of it, premising that he took them principally from Youatt's work on the pig.

In one year two sows will breed ten each, of which we shall assume that half are males and half are females, and so proceed on assumption. The first year there will be, males 20 and females, 20

From which take the males, 10

And we have the result, breeders, 10

At the second year we may fairly take the same ratio of time to each, and it gives one hundred males and females, 2100

Leaving, consequently, for the 3d year breeders, 50

50 10

21500

4th year breeders, 250

250 10

212,500

5th year breeders, 1,250

1,250 10

212,500

6th year breeders, 6,250

6,250 10

212,500

7th year breeders, 31,250

31,250 10

212,500

8th year breeders, 156,250

156,250 10

212,500

9th year breeders, 781,250

781,250 10

212,500

10th year breeders, 3,906,250

3,906,250 10

212,500

10th year, males and females, 39,062,500

39,062,500

If the males only are slaughtered, it will afford pork for no small population. It must be allowed, however, that since the potato rot has desolated our potato fields, it is much easier raising pigs on paper than it is in the sty. Every one will admit, however, that if one had the proper means and allowances to bestow upon his swine, they would soon be made to increase in a most astonishing manner.

Where Indian corn and nuts are abundant, as in the Western States, this assertion is demonstrated, as hogs are one of the great staple commodities of those States. In our section of the Union we use Indian corn only for fattening our swine, while potatoes, (when we can avoid the rot), apples, and the more cheaply raised products of the farm, are used to keep them growing in what is called "store order." In England, where no Indian corn can be raised, they follow a similar course. Arthur Young says:

"The farmer who would make a considerable profit by hogs, must determine to keep a proper number of sows, in order to breed many pigs; but this resolution must be preceded by the most careful determination to prepare crops proper for supporting this stock. The proper ones are barley, buck-wheat, peas, clover, potatoes and carrots. In the common management, a farmer keeps only a sow or two, because his dairy will do more, but in the system of planting crops properly for swine, a different conduct must necessarily be pursued. Potatoes, carrots, Swedish turnips, and cabbages, [and we should add, parsnips and pumpkins], must be provided for the sows until May or June, by which time clover, chicory, &c., will be ready to receive them.

Query.

MA. EDITOR:—I noticed an article in your paper, copied from the Columbus Enquirer, which purported to be a cure for a bellowed horse. I have one that I would like to try the experiment on, if I could find any one that could tell me how large a piece of blue-stone must be to the size of a chinquapin. I have written to you to ask a question through your paper.

What is a chinquapin, and how large is it?

A. SUBSCRIBER.

NOTE. A chinquapin is a nut that grows upon a shrub or small tree in the Middle, and some of the Southern States. It varies in size from that of a small hazel nut or filbert, to that of a chestnut.

Culture of Grapes in Maine.

Here is one of the most plain, practical, and (to us in Maine) most valuable essays on the culture of the grape that we have ever seen. The thanks of every lover of the grape in the State, are due for these clear and practical hints on this interesting subject.

EDITOR OF THE MAINE FARMER:—Dear Sir:—

I had neither the vanity or courage to offer my Grapes and Pears for exhibition to the Pomological Society, or to invite their criticism upon my horticultural pastime, for pastime it has surely been to me, and nothing else, the past season—to watch the growth of my bantling along, and to entertain my friends and visitors with short conversational dissertations upon horticultural science, as I understand it. My friends listen, with wonderful patience. My breath, without the example, might be thrown away, and probably would be; yet, both combined, though a *little* *leaves*, the whole lump will be heaved. The most strange fancy I have seen, rambling about my very limited premises, assure me that the public are not unkind of my doings; and the evident interest in my success, exhibited by all, has sufficiently repaid me all the expense, as well as afforded me real and continual gratification during the whole season. Nevertheless, I am not yet ready to enter the lists of generous rivalry with my Kennebec friends, in the raising of fruit. Many of them possess wealth, and all of them *will*, which I do not; but energy and ingenuity have accomplished much in this world: I do "never despair." In 1850, if my usual robust health continues, I will appear to the Society, with my samples of what can be done in this State, in the way of fruit raising. In the mean time I will jog on at my usual pace, a brisk trot, and see if any thing can be grown another year, worthy of sending to my yet unseen friend, the Editor of the "Farmer." But, last too much might be anticipated. I will merely say here, that the whole extent of my farm will not exceed a third of an acre. This is small; but it is *my* *my* *my*. At another time I will say something about the soil, and the rich profusion of its products.

My object, at present, is to say something about grapes, and more particularly I design to speak of the Isabella Grape—the soil it likes the best, the aspect—the pruning of the vine, the thinning of the fruit, and the very great degree of cold the grapes will bear, in autumn, without the slightest injury. I shall speak only of what I do know, and let theory alone. As my large vine illustrates fully all I have to say about it, I will describe that, premising, only, that they can be grown in any other shape, though this is considered the best.

In the autumn of 1845, I bought a variety of vines and shrubs of Messrs. Hovey & Co., of Boston, and among others, this "Isabella" vine. I paid one dollar for the vine. It had three arms or branches starting from the very root, each about as large as one's little finger: the diameter of the root was three-fourths of an inch. It was every way a thrifty, hearty, well-rooted vine, and worth the dollar.

After looking about sometime for a suitable place to set it, I concluded to plant it against the south end of my house, and train it upright. The house is 38 by 20 feet and fronts the east. The L joins the west side of the main house at the western corner, jutting out southerly by the main building about six feet. The kitchen and wood house jut out southerly by this L in the same way, thus forming in the space of sixty feet, two right angles or L's. My vines are planted along on this southerly side of the buildings, the great vine being against the centre of the end of the main house, and one foot distant therefrom.

The border made for this vine is 15 feet long by 3 feet wide, and three feet deep. All the old soil (heavy clay) was taken out, and the trench filled with three cart loads of pasture manure and turf, one load of old cow manure, three barrels of unleached ashes, one barrel of bones, broken up, and one load of very old *spout* *tan*, which was spread over the top of all, after they were well mingled together. In the bottom of the trench was placed a layer of broken brick and small stones, eight inches thick. The top of the border is about six inches above the level of the adjacent ground. The vine was carefully set out on the 10th of November, every fibre properly extended: the root was well covered with coarse litter, and the three arms tied together with woolen list, and sheathed lightly with long straw, and then bound firmly to a strong stake.

The vine got through the winter well. It was uncovered about the tenth of April, and the arms, which were three feet each in length, were tied to separate stakes. The left-hand arm started well, with two strong shoots from the top end: the middle arm the same, while the remaining arm started rather feebly, but with one shoot. All these five shoots grew up September, when they were all steepled by pinching off the ends about six feet from the ground. In November, (say the 10th), the shoots were pruned of tendrils and laterals, leaving nothing but the bare canes: these were soon tied together as before, laid horizontally about a foot above the ground, and sheathed with a covering of long straw, bound with list as before. A few great boughs were thrown over them. In the spring, (of 1847,) they were unbound as before, and started up long stakes. The middle shoots tied up very vigorous. I allowed each one to "fork" again, thus getting four strong canes from the one middle shoot below. The left arm grew off as before with two shoots only, and the right arm kept on with a single shoot above. Thus I got seven upright canes, and the vine properly balanced; and it remains in this form now. Some fruit appeared, which was promptly pinched off, and the vine reached the height of ten feet—all of good, strong wood. All the laterals and tendrils were again pinched off in November, the canes gathered together, sheathed with straw and laid down as before. In April following, the covering was removed. In May, (about the 10th), the canes were fastened to an upright trellis, and the buds pushed finely. June last, about one hundred bunches of grapes appeared. All were removed but twenty-five: these grew finely, as well as the vine. In September, say about the 20th, the canes were steepled about fifteen feet from the ground. The fruit was prematurely gathered, Sept. 25th, and although fine to appearance, it proved quite acid and "foxy." I regretted very much my unseemly haste. I found out, when too late, that not even a leaf of the vine was nipped by the frost until Oct. 20th. The canes were pruned smooth, as before, sheathed and laid down, Nov. 30th. In the spring of 1849, (last year), the straw was taken off, April 10th. The vine was not put out on the trellis until May 25th. I found the longer I could keep it down, the better the eyes or buds would push on the *lower* *half* of the vine. Two hundred bunches of fruit appeared in June. Twenty-five, only, were allowed to grow. These ripened finely and were gathered Oct. 15th. The vine was not suffered to grow in height, as I designed to "spur" the canes in the fall. This I did, (in Nov., as usual), cutting every lateral away, and every little branch that had borne fruit was cut in the middle of the third joint, thus leaving two good eyes, and a third at the base, (of this little branch), from which to rear another bearing branch another year. Then the canes were carefully gathered together and tied: the whole was bent round like a large wheel, and done up in straw as usual, a mat thrown over it (to keep off the sun, not the cold) and the whole rested against the house through the winter. Last spring, (1850,) I unbound the straw and loosened the canes in April, and put up the vine on the trellis, May 25th. All the buds broke finely all the way to the ground. They looked very fine.

A great abundance of fruit appeared in June, more than four hundred bunches. The poorest, and those on the back side of the vine, were taken off; only two hundred and twenty-five bunches remained to grow by the 10th of July. To please some of my neighbors who seemed proud of my vine, I spliced my trellis and pushed it up nine feet further, this year—each cane having grown that much, to the very top of the added trellis. Notwithstanding this great growth, (63 feet), the fruit ripened very well, and was gathered, Oct. 8th, in fine condition, though not quite so large as it was the last year.

This vine, with its splendid array of fruit, and its fine, portly dimensions, has attracted the attention of every passer by, the whole season. It covers a trellis eight feet wide by twenty-four feet high, which stands eighteen inches from the house, and is secured to the same with stout wire hooks and stays. The blinds open freely behind this trellis, the fruit appearing at the parlor windows in October, of rich purple hue and in great profusion. I have enjoyed many a taste of the grapes this fall, as I rise in the morning, from the chamber windows, which is certainly an unusual thing for a "Down-Easter" to be doing.

I wished to ascertain to a certainty what amount of frost this grape would bear without injury, and so I left about a dozen bunches on the vine. Oct. 28th, I took off six or eight, and found them delicious, of excellent flavor, and far superior to any I ever saw in Boston market, for grapes raised in the open air. There are still some branches hanging there uninjured, although every leaf has fallen, and water in a barrel has frozen four-tenths of an inch thick. My thermometer has, several times, stood at 22° this season, at sunrise, (or rather the mercury in it,) showing that a degree of cold which will freeze the ground and common vegetables, leaves the Grape harmless. I never shall fear again the frost, until every dahlia is gone, and the very leaves of the vine which bears the grapes are nipped and killed. October 20th is plenty soon enough to talk about gathering grapes.

I shall prune this vine the middle of this week, 22d inst., "spurring" it in my fashion, and leaving this year's growth of cane smooth, as before. I had nearly forgotten to name that every gill of soap suds made "washing day," goes to the roots of my vines, "express." They are bountifully supplied with water during the season. The well is close by, and I own a syringe and small copper force pump, and I don't forget to use them freely every where, on my premises. The foliage and fruit are kept in much fairer condition by frequent showering with a syringe: besides the moths and insects are routed—they cannot stay, where, once a week, they are subject to a general deluge.

I have a variety of vines, of which I shall speak by and by. In the mean time I will say that every one in the State can raise this fine fruit, if they can completely shelter their vines from the north-east, north and north-west winds. *Begin* *right*, and there is no "witch-work" about it. More anon. A. J. J.

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Wiscasset, Nov. 18th, 1850.

Written for the Maine Farmer.

The Shanghai Fowl.

There are yellow Shanghaes were first brought into this country by Capt. R. B. Forbes, in 1848; and since then they have been imported by several other gentlemen. They resemble the Cochin China fowl in general appearance and shape, though they are of a lighter color and have a greater depth of quarter and less depth of breast. Their general plumage is of a light yellow or gold color, variegated with dark brown and red; the body is well formed, and the wings are small and high up on the back or sides. The legs of the young are rather too long for beauty. The comb is single, straight and serrated: the head is flat sized, and the tail short, compared with smaller fowls. The chickens of the same age are very uniform in size, which shows, without doubt, that they are a distinct race.

They are very healthy and hardy, and grow rapidly. The hens are great layers, and produce more eggs than any other large breed; they are good setters and careful nurses. There are very few genuine Shanghaes in this country. But being so rare a bird, and so little known as yet, crosses of the Cochin China and other large breeds are often sold to a confiding public as bona fide Shanghaes, and the only way to save yourself from being humbugged is to buy of the importers, even if you have to pay a higher price.

Gardner, Nov. 9, 1850.

Dr. Franklin says, speaking of education, "If a man empty his purse into his head, no one can take it from him."

West Somerset Agricultural Society.

The Cattle Show and Fair of the West Somerset Agricultural Society was held at Madford Falls, on Wednesday and Thursday, October 9th and 10th, 1850. We learn that the exhibition of this season was better than ever before; and if the interest in this Society continues, its exhibitions will soon rank among the best in the State. At the request of the Secretary, we publish the following abstract of the reports of the several Committees.

The Committee on Butter and Cheese report that they found it extremely difficult to decide on the different articles—all that were presented for examination being good, and done up in neat order, much to the credit of the manufacturers. On butter, the Committee awarded the first premium to Mrs. Edgar Hilton, of Anson; the second, to Mrs. William W. Manner, of Anson; the third, to Mrs. David M. Lane, of Anson; and the fourth, to Mrs. Samuel W. Tinkham, of Anson. On cheese, the first premium was awarded to Mrs. Amasa Bixby, of Norridgewock; the second, to Mrs. John S. Bixby, of Norridgewock; the third, to Mrs. Samuel W. Tinkham, of Anson; and the fourth, to Mrs. James M. Hilton, of Starks.

The Committee on Miscellaneous articles recommend the following premiums: To Mrs. Sanborn Dinsmore, Tuffed Hearth Rug, \$1.00; Miss Caroline Bixby, do, 50c.; Mrs. Enoch Weston, Chenille Rug, \$1; Piece Yarn Carpeting, 50c.; Mrs. Sumner Bixby, Chenille Hearth Rug, 50c.; Piece Filled Cloth, 50c.; Mrs. John S. Bixby, piece Rob-Roy, 75c.; Worsteds Hose, 25c.; Mrs. Joseph M. Smith, Ottoman, 75c.; Mrs. John Perham, Work Pocket, 50c.; Rag Carpeting, 50c.; Miss Amelia H. Hill, Lamp Mats, 50c.; Miss Rachel Flint, Sewing Silk, 50c.; Mrs. James M. Hilton, Lamp Mat, 50c.; Miss Ann J. Weston, Ottoman, 50c.; Miss Sarah F. Bixby, Sewing Silk Carpet, 50c.; Mrs. Richard Hilton, Cotton Hose, 25c.; Hardy & Nevins, Window Sash, 50c.; John Viles, Beets, 50c.; Wm. R. Flint, Seed Corn, 50c.; Elder Joseph Wibee, Dutch Cabbage, 50c.; Wm. Metcalf, Egg, Malaga Squash, 50c.

The Committee on Cows report that, after the many stock cows offered for premiums, after a long examination, they came to the conclusion that the first premium should be awarded to Levi Holway, for his stock cow; the second, to David M. Lane; and the third, to Benjamin Burns. On Milch Cows, the first premium was awarded to S. W. Tinkham; the second, to George W. Blackwell; and the third, to S. W. Tinkham. There were only three milk cows offered for premiums, all of which, the Committee think, were worthy.

The Committee on Heifers and Heifer Calves report that the number of three years old heifers entered for premiums, was five; the number of two years old, nine; the number of yearlings, fourteen; the number of heifer calves, six. After having carefully examined the above, we have awarded as follows: To James M. Savage, the first premium on three years old heifers; to S. W. Tinkham, the second; to Orren Parkman, the third. To Samuel Fuller, the first premium on two years old heifer; to John M. Wood, the second; to John Bray, the third. To Benj. Burns, the first premium on yearling heifers; to S. W. Tinkham, the second; to Edgar Hilton, the third. To Elijah Hill, the first premium on heifer calves; to John Wason, Jr., the second and third.

The Committee on Town Teams and Working Oxen report that there were six teams entered for premiums—three of Oxen and three of steers. After a long examination, the committee came to the conclusion to award the first premium to the town team of Anson; the second, to the town team of Starks; and the third, to the town team of Madison. On three years old Steers, the first premium was awarded to the town of Madison; the second, to the town of Starks; and the third, to the town of Anson. The committee found it a hard task to select the best working oxen, as there were so many good strength and good discipline, that it was hard to determine which were entitled to the Society's premiums; but, after a long consultation, they awarded the first premium to Isaac Rowell; the second, to James M. Hilton; and the third, to Edgar Hilton.

The Committee on Draft Oxen report that eighteen oxen were offered for premium, and exhibited their strength in the presence of the Committee. The appearance of the cattle and their condition was very gratifying to the Committee. All of them were fine specimens of draft oxen, and would, we believe, compare favorably with any equal number ever exhibited in our country. The oxen had an excellent opportunity for drawing, every facility being offered by the large number of persons present, and the teamsters did their duty in an unexceptionable manner. Our thanks are due both to teamsters and people for the manner in which they severally conducted. It is difficult when all appear so well to decide which did the best, and to award the premium; but after a careful inspection and mature deliberation the committee have unanimously concluded to award the first premium to George Ladd, of Starks, for his yoke of oxen six years old; and with the same unanimity we award the second premium to Warren Russell of Madison, for his oxen six years old; and the third premium we award to John Burns of Madison, for his oxen four years old.

The Committee on Steers and Steer Calves, report that the whole number entered for premiums was forty pairs, viz: sixteen pairs three years old, eleven pairs two years old, 7 pairs yearlings, 6 pairs steer calves. We award the first premium on three years old steers to Alfred Viles, the second to Samuel Fuller, the third to Ephraim Heald. The first premium on two years old steers we award to Cyrus Goodrich, the second to John Burns, the third to Edgar Hilton. The first premium on yearling steers we award to John Bray, the second to Amasa Bixby, the third to Sanborn Dinsmore. The first premium on steer calves we award to Orren W. Greston, the second to Samuel W. Tinkham, the third to James M. Savage.

The Committee on Bulls and Bull Calves report that they award the first premium on bulls to Rufus Bixby, the second to True Remick, the third to John L. Blackwell. The first premium on yearling calves they award to Sumner Bixby.

the second to John Burns. There were no other yearling bulls entered for premium. Six bull calves were presented, which were all so beautiful and large that the Committee found much difficulty in arriving at a just conclusion, but finally decided to award the first premium to Peleg Tupper, the second to Benj. Burns, the third to Edgar Hilton, the fourth to Joshua Ellis.

The Committee on Sheep found it exceedingly difficult to determine which buck to pronounce best, there being more than forty exhibited, but as it is their duty to discriminate, they award the first premium to Sanborn Dinsmore, the second to Wm. R. Flint, the third to S. W. Smith. The first premium on ewes they award to David M. Lane.

The Committee on Horses report that there were but two stud horses offered for premium. They award the first to Lewis Allen of Norridgewock, and the second to Charles L. Crosby of Madison. There were six breeding mares offered, and we award David M. Lane of Anson the first premium, Rufus Bixby of Norridgewock the second, and Edgar Hilton of Anson the third. There were four three years old colts entered for premiums, and we award the first premium to Orren W. Greston of Starks, the second to James Wood of Starks, and the third to George Ladd of Starks. Six two years old colts were entered, and we award to Edgar W. Hilton of Anson the first premium, the second to Sumner Bixby of Norridgewock, and the third to John Heald of Anson. Five yearling colts were offered, and we award to William Waugh of Starks the first premium, to Wm. T. Preble of Starks the second, and to Amasa Bixby of Norridgewock the third. All the horses examined were good and show a decided improvement on former years in form and make.

Written for the Maine Farmer.

Raising Turkeys and Pork.

MA. EDITOR:—Much has been written of late in regard to the domestic hen, whilst the turkey, that *sine qua non* of a good Thanksgiving dinner, has had to stand back, until he has grown rather red about the face and neck, and seems to threaten to desert our tables altogether, unless more attention is paid to him. Now cannot some of your readers give us a chapter of their experience as to the profit of raising good turkeys for market?

There is one thing more I should like to inquire about. There seems to be considerable competition as to who shall have the largest porker; but I have not perceived that any one has made an estimate of the cost so far as to furnish information whether it can be made a profitable business to fatten pork for market, now that we have no potatoes to do it with. If any have turned their attention to either of these matters, so as to speak from experience, probably there are many who would be glad to hear from them, as well as myself. I like the remarks of J. E. Rolfe on cows, and hope other farmers will be liberal in their donations of this kind to the Maine Farmer.

A SUBSCRIBER.



THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

THURSDAY MORNING, NOV. 28, 1880.

Hydraulic Ram once more.

As the season approaches when the cattle must be housed, and of course must be watered regularly, it will be well to look around and see what are the facilities for giving them their ration during the cold season. If you have a chance to put in a water ram and let the water pump itself up to the water troughs, you will find it a very valuable and economical method of watering.

A writer in Moore's Rural New Yorker of the 14th, under the signature of R. S., says—we have one of W. & B. Douglas's water ram that works up over thirty barrels of water a day—a distance of 75 rods, and at an elevation of 98 feet with a fall of 11 feet from spring to ram.

From spring to ram we have a cast iron supply pipe, 42 feet long, of two inch calibre, (bigger than needed but could not get less.) Common lead pipe for supply pipe, with as much fall as we have from spring to ram, would be likely to burst. Our discharge pipe is lead, of half an inch calibre.

After stating how much difficulty they formerly had in supplying their cattle with water, especially during the winter season, he says:

We are highly pleased with our ram and would not part with it for five times its cost, if we could not get another. The question is often asked, "will they work uniformly and perpetually?" Ours has performed admirably, with very few exceptions. It never stopped without good cause, and that easily removed. Gravel has sometimes been drawn into the supply pipe and stopped the action of the piston or valve, which would instantly wash out by holding down the piston and then go on rapping as before.

We know of no invention that is more valuable for the purpose of raising water to supply the house or barnyard than this. All that you want is, first a supply of water and then a fall of four feet—more would be better. It will work for you day and night and deliver the water just where you want it, which is far better than shoveling snow and driving cattle to water when it is so cold that they hate to drink it when they get there.

Why not Make Glass in Maine.

We notice that the Sandwich Observer is "cracking up" the large glass bowls that are now made by machinery at the Sandwich glass works. They are made there weighing sixty pounds weight, twenty-one inches high, and twenty-two inches in diameter at the top. The thought occurred to us, while reading it, why do we not make glass in Maine? At present we are an immense market for the several glass manufacturers and glass dealers in the other States.

We have materials enough in different sections of Maine to make glass sufficient to glaze all the houses among us that are now building or are to be built for the next century—wood enough and siliceous matter enough to supply the furnaces. In the town of Liberty, some ten or fifteen miles from our office, is an immense deposit of granular quartz of excellent quality, and fuel enough to supply the furnaces. All that is needed is, faith, energy, and capital. Isn't there enough of that in Maine to establish a glass house?

A GOOD AXE. Every man likes to have a good axe, whether he chops little or much himself, or merely keeps one to lend to his neighbor. Our neighbor, Peter H. Albee, has made us one or two, within a few years, and they are first rate. Peter is a good workman in making edge tools. He has a correct eye for colors, and can catch the temper of the cooling steel at a pigeon blue or straw yellow, to the very shadow of a shade. We commend him for making tools of all kinds, from a broad axe to a butcher knife.

MELANCHOLY OCCURRENCE. We understand that Capt. Jonathan Whiting, of Wintrop, was killed by the wheel of his wagon running over his head, on Monday afternoon last. He was driving a loaded team from Hallowell to Wintrop. He was found dead in the road—his head crushed, and one of the horses dead. It is not known how the accident occurred, as he was alone at the time. Capt. Whiting was one of our most worthy, industrious and enterprising citizens, and his death will be felt as occasioning a serious loss to the community.

NOVEMBER STRAWBERRIES. The Editor of the Lewistown Chronicle, after publishing our brag about the November clover blossoms, observes—"We have a match for that, friend Holmes, in the reality of strawberries (ripe and green) and the flowers thereof, freshly plucked, and laid on our table on Monday last by Mr. John S. Miller of this town." Strawberries in November will do. They were grown in the open air, until a few days since—the thermometer, however, is now down to the freezing point." "Aye, friend, and so it is here. The pines and nosegays have all withered, and the boys are skating over the ponds and puddles, as merry as musquitos in June."

NEW STEAMER. The Portland and Boston papers speak very highly of the new steamer "St. Lawrence," which has just commenced running on the route between Portland and Boston. She is 225 feet in length, 28 feet beam, and 11 feet hold. Her depth from the upper deck is 17 feet. She is about 700 tons burthen, and is built for a rapid sailer. She has seven masts, is copper fastened, and her timbers are of oak, chestnut and cedar. She is well adapted to the route, and as she put together with great strength, it is confidently expected that she will be able to outdo the severest storms in perfect safety. The St. Lawrence is commanded by Capt. Cyrus Sturtevant, and makes three trips per week between Portland and Boston.

DECEASED IN THE DRIGGINS. Olan E. Dodge, the inmate Olan, is "round," and will give one of his Concerts in Wintrop village, on Friday evening, next. Dodge is an honest man, and as good as his honest; and if good singing, with a voice of mirth and a touch of innocent fun, gives any pleasure, just drop in, and listen and laugh, or laugh and listen, just as the fit takes you.

MAMMOTH ORANGE. We have received from Geo. W. Jones, Esq., City Marshal, one of the oranges. It measures in one circumference nine inches and a quarter inches, and in the other seven inches and a half inches, and weighs two pounds and six ounces. Isn't that a bouncer?

The Poultry Exhibition at Waterville.

The exhibition of poultry at Waterville, on the 20th inst., was, we are informed, on the whole, even more successful than those who planned it and carried it out had anticipated. The weather was favorable. The number of fowls exhibited was between five and six hundred, arranged in a little less than one hundred apartments. The most of the improved varieties were represented. The Waterville Mail, in speaking of this exhibition, says: "We have nearly forgotten the beautiful Bantam, the graceful Dorking; the pretty Top-knot, and the stately Spanish; and now we look for the Shanghai, the Cocker, the Chittagong, the Great Malley, the Spangled Hamburg, the Silver Pheasant, and lastly the Wild Indian Game Fowl. We have here all the former, and who shall say how many of the latter? We believe all but the Chittagong and Wild Indian. We have all the colors; and all sizes from one pound to ten. We have geese and ducks, turkeys and hens, enclosed in as great a variety of coops as can be found between Phoenix Building and Tonic Bridge. The attendance is good, and the exhibition will do much, without doubt, to advance the interest so generally felt in improving the stock of fowls."

As we were not present on the occasion, we are unable to give an extended or particular notice of the various fowls exhibited. A correspondent, who was present, has furnished us with a very full and interesting account of this exhibition, but owing to a press of other matter, we are obliged to defer its publication until next week.

Visit to Aroostook County—No. 5.

We were much pleased with the general appearance of the land lying between No. 11 and Presque Isle Plantation. There are beautiful wells, finely wooded; and, judging from the crops which we saw on the openings, the soil is naturally rich and productive. There are many lots on this road which are well adapted for agricultural purposes, and with the requisite industry and skill, they may be converted into beautiful and productive farms. We noticed that several new chippings had been made during the season, and doubtless the attention of many who are seeking a pleasant home in the wilderness is being turned in this direction. This section certainly presents strong inducements for settlement—the want of a good road being the greatest objection that we could see.

This road runs south of the Aroostook river, at an average distance of perhaps three miles from it. The land is generally pretty free from stones—in fact, on the river there are hardly enough to be procured for the purpose of stoning wells and cellars, and cedar is often used instead. There is in this section an abundance of the most beautiful cedar that we ever saw—a liberal supply for fencing and all the other purposes to which this valuable timber is put on the farm. We passed on this road many large trees of this species, one of which we measured a few inches above the ground, and found it, as near as we could determine, eight feet and four inches in circumference! There were others as large, and perhaps larger.

There is considerable travel on this road in the winter, and in the spring and autumn many lumbermen pass and repass on their way to and from the timber townships to the west and north. In the winter this road is said to be generally very good. The day we passed through, (Sept. 25,) we met some twelve or fifteen men who were travelling on foot towards No. 11, each with a pack on his back.

Gen. Trask, formerly of Norridgewock, keeps a public house on this road about half way from No. 11 to Presque Isle. He has been settled on the lot he now occupies seven years, if we mistake not. He is a good farmer, and judging from what we saw about his premises, his success has been very encouraging. His buildings are comfortable, and his large barn is well filled with the best of hay and grain. We saw some very good neat stock here, and one of the very largest ewes we have seen this season.

Gen. Trask informed us that, (with the exception of a small piece of wheat which he sowed out of season, and in consequence it was injured by the rust,) during the whole time he has been here his crops have not been injured to the amount of ten dollars by rust, insects and frosts, combined. We doubt not, very much, that for the same number of years back, in which the rust, the potato rot and the grain worm have been so generally destructive, and have been so highly favored in this respect. And this, it should be recollected, is in the north-eastern portion of Maine, where many people imagine it is so cold and frosty that the ordinary crops of the farm cannot be brought to maturity. A visit to the farm of Gen. Trask, at the time of harvest, would do much towards overcoming the unreasonable prejudice which exists in the minds of many relative to this section of the State.

We saw here some of the most beautiful winter wheat that can be produced. It was perfectly free from weeds and all foul stuff, with bright and white straw, and well-developed heads which were filled with plump, white kernels. Gen. Trask's crop of winter wheat is estimated at from one hundred and fifty to two hundred bushels. This variety of wheat has been raised in this vicinity for several years, and Gen. T. thinks it is superior to any other variety that has been cultivated in this section of the State.

Gen. Trask has a field of ten bushels sowing of winter grain, which we saw at some distance from the road, and which appeared very green and flourishing. We have no doubt winter grain may be successfully and profitably cultivated in Aroostook County. Those who have devoted the proper care and attention to its cultivation, have most generally succeeded.

We noticed here an abundant supply of garden vegetables, corn and beans well ripened, and the most excellent potatoes, entirely free from the rot, not to mention rutabagas and millet in abundance. We also saw here a ripe tomato. We do not know why every variety of vegetables which may be successfully cultivated in Kennebec should not be raised here, if they are properly attended to.

Gen. Trask has "elbow-room" enough we should judge. His nearest neighbor on the west lives at a distance of five miles; and on the east it is four miles to a neighbor's. His nearest neighbor lives near the river, which is three miles to the north. If this country was more generally known and appreciated, we have no doubt it would be much more rapidly settled.

We noticed, as we traveled towards the east, that much more attention is paid to the raising of backwash. This grain has been extensively introduced by settlers from New Brunswick, of whom there are many in the eastern part of the County, and is now very generally cultivated. Probably more backwash is raised in Aroostook County than in all the rest of the State. It is considered nothing unusual for farmers here to raise two or three hundred bushels of backwash, and some raise five hundred or one thousand. It is estimated that in the town of Houlton, alone, twenty thousand bushels of this grain were raised, the present year. It is extensively used

in fattening swine, and when it is properly ground and cooked, it makes excellent cake. It is a valuable crop. The variety which is usually cultivated here, is known as the *Rough Duck*, and it is the same variety that we saw in Kennebec, ten or twelve years ago, where it was known as *Indian Wheat*.

On the road from No. 11, we passed some beautiful fields of millet. The heads were long and heavy, and most gracefully bowed to the passing breeze. We also noticed on this road that it was the practice to thrash the backwash in the ground in the fields where it grew. Perhaps this was owing to a want of convenient thrashing floors.

Presque Isle Plantation is a good agricultural township. At the village, which is situated on the Presque Isle river, a branch of the Aroostook, there are a saw mill and grist mill, two or three stores and one or two taverns, besides shops and dwellings. Considerable interest in agricultural improvement is manifested in this vicinity. An Agricultural Society was incorporated by the last Legislature, to accommodate this portion of the County, and hereafter its annual exhibitions will be held at Presque Isle.

The following statement of the amount of crops raised the present year by Mr. John T. Goss, of Presque Isle Plantation, together with the market value of the same, was communicated to us by a trader of the place, whose name we do not now recollect. He assured us that we might rely upon the correctness of the statement. The prices affixed were what he regarded as the fair market value of the articles in that township. Mr. Goss, in raising these crops, had only the assistance of his son, seventeen years of age, and a hired man for four months.

25 tons of hay, \$8 per ton,	\$200
100 bushels of oats, 30c,	30
100 " " wheat, 1.25,	125
100 " " buckwheat, 50c,	50
40 " " millet, 75c,	30
25 " " rye, \$1,	25
30 " " corn, \$1,	30
100 " " potatoes, 20c,	20
100 " " turnips, 20c,	20
300 " " carrots, 20c,	60
6 " " beans, \$1,	6
	\$806

This is certainly encouraging, more especially when we take into consideration the fact, that land in this vicinity is so cheap, that it is almost given away to those who will settle on it.

New Publications.

We have received from T. B. Peterson, Philadelphia, the second series, and conclusion, of "Cruising in the Last War," by C. J. Peterson. This work, the first part of which we noticed some time since, originally appeared in Graham's Magazine, but its great popularity induced its present publisher to issue it in book form. It is one of the most thrilling tales of the day, and abounds with many stirring descriptions of "morning actions by flood and field." It forms, complete, a volume of 228 pages and is afforded at the price of 50 cents. It will richly repay a perusal.

From John S. Taylor, 143 Nassau St., N. Y., we have received "The Power of Beauty," by Rev. J. T. Headley. We find much in this work to commend. It contains three beautiful steel engravings, and a splendidly illuminated title page, and is very handsomely printed. Mr. Headley's reputation, so highly established by his preceding works, has lost nothing in this. The characters of Esther and of Ruth are drawn with a masterly skill, and cannot fail to interest the reader. The book is worthy a place in every library.

We acknowledge the receipt of the first eight numbers of a new paper, published at Portland, called "The Eclectic." This is a weekly publication, of quarto form, devoted to Literature and General Intelligence,—published by Plummer & Eldred, at \$1.50 per annum. It is a very handsome sheet, and we welcome it to our table. It deserves a good list of subscribers, and we give it our best wishes for its success.

We have also received a catalogue of Lewiston Falls Academy. It is handsomely printed, and we think we should judge the institution was in a flourishing state. The whole number of pupils, for the Fall Term, is 91. Principal, Jotham B. Sewall, A. B.

THE "CONSPIRACY CASE." We learn from the Bangor Courier that the "conspiracy case," State vs. Asa Walker and Caleb Wake, which created quite a sensation in June last, was lately disposed of in the Supreme Court at Bangor, the Attorney General entering a *nolle prosequi* on behalf of the State. It will be recollected that the conspiracy charged was the prosecution of a man in Oldtown for selling spirituous liquors in violation of the Statute of 1846, and that the legality of the Penobscot Temperance League was drawn in question. At the trial in the District Court, Judge Hathaway ruled that the League was an unlawful combination, and, in effect, instructed the jury to find the defendants guilty, they admitting that they acted under and on behalf of the League. To these instructions the defendants excepted; and the Supreme Court sustained the exceptions, set aside the verdict and ordered a new trial. As nothing remained to try, the case was finally disposed of, as above stated. This appeal has vindicated the right of the people to form associations for the better enforcement of the laws.

EXTENSION OF THE ANDROSCOGGIN RAILROAD. We learn that the grading of the Androscoggin Railroad is going on as far up as Livermore: the greater portion of the stock has been taken up, principally on the line of the road, and there is now no reasonable doubt of its completion in due time. We also learn from the last number of the Farmington Chronicle, that the Directors have just completed a survey for extending this road to Farmington Village. The distance from the part under contract at Livermore Falls to the terminus in Farmington, is about fifteen miles, and it is said to be of easy grade. The cost of grading is estimated at about \$75,000, and it is supposed that as much more would complete the road and put it in running order.

LADIES' FAIR BY THE FAIR LADIES. The Ladies of the Episcopal Sewing Society in this city will hold a sale of useful and fancy articles, this (Wednesday) evening, at Winthrop Hall, to commence at 6 o'clock.

STORM. On Monday night, of last week, there was a severe gale outside, which did considerable damage to the shipping which was exposed to its fury. The steamboats running on the eastern waters did not venture out, with the exception of the St. Lawrence, which made her regular trip between Portland and Boston. It is said to have been the roughest time of the season.

MORE CHOICE PORK. Mr. S. H. King, of West Monmouth, slaughtered a pig, the other day, that was eight months old. It weighed 280 pounds. This is a gain of a little more than a pound and a half per day, (17-19) during its life. Are all the Monmouth shoats as thrifty as this?

CAMDEN. According to the census just taken, the population of Camden is 4005, being a gain of 1000 since 1840.

Gathered News Fragments, &c.

Scientific Lectures. Dr. C. T. Jackson, of Boston, is to deliver a course of twelve scientific lectures before the Mechanics' Association, of Bangor, to commence the first of December. Such lectures might be found interesting and profitable in other places.

Board of Education. George C. Swallow, of Hampden was lately elected member of the Board of Education for Penobscot County.

American Newspapers. John J. Smith, Librarian of the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, proposes to make a collection of all the papers published in the United States, for exhibition at the World's Fair.

American Zinc. The first American zinc ever put into the market, was exhibited at the New York Exchange, on Thursday last.

Indian Appropriations. The Indian Appropriations for 1849, from the United States Government, were \$774,317.

Prosecution. The Savannah Republican says that the owners of Crafts, the fugitive who was not arrested in Boston, have instituted measures to prosecute the United States Marshal and Commissioner of Boston, as well as the members of the Committee of Vigilance, under the Fugitive Slave Law.

Railway Subscription. In Nova Scotia, over fifty thousand pounds (\$200,000) have already been subscribed for the North American Railway.

Fullly settling in death. Two men at Alton, N. H., at a hawking, lately, undertook to amuse the company by seeing which could eat the most of a great variety of food, including dried apples. One of them, Charles French, who made the hawking, died the next day: the other, Henry Miller, died the day after.

Onions. Mr. Chase, of Porter, Maine, raised a crop of onions, at the rate of 300 bushels per acre.

New York City. The number of buildings erected in the city of New York, since 1840, is 15,409.

Pins. The number of pins annually manufactured in the United States, is computed at one hundred thousand millions.

Accident. At Middleton, Ct., some Irish boys were playing with logs on a side hill, when one of the logs rolled over two brothers, sons of Michael McLaughlin, killing one, and, it is believed, fatally injuring the other.

Minnesota. Gov. Ramsey writes from Minnesota, that the population has increased from four thousand last year, to over seven thousand the present. Emigrants are pouring in from Norway, Sweden and North Germany.

Deer hunting. A party of six gentlemen lately took a hunt on the Adirondack, in Irwin county, Georgia, and killed within six days, thirty deer. One of the men alone killed seventeen, in twenty shots.

Discontinued. The Post office at West Danville has been discontinued. Persons who have heretofore received their mail matter at that office, can be accommodated at Goff's Corner post office.

The next Legislature. The number of democrats elected representatives to the next Legislature is 94, whigs and freeholders, 57. The last Legislature stood, democrats, 89; whigs and freeholders, 62.

Accident. Young Drury, of Astoria, N. Y., was last Wednesday experimenting with a torpedo box, and, thinking the match had failed, stooped over the box, when it suddenly exploded and terribly lacerated his throat. It is thought he will not recover.

New Post Office. A new Post Office has been established at Brown's Corner, in Northport, and is called East Northport. Henry Brown, Esq., is Postmaster.

Very thirsty. A young man at Saratoga has drunk up two farms since the first of July, out-houses and all.

Land Free. Any American citizen settling in Oregon previous to December 1st, 1853, obtains a grant of 160 acres of land, an additional 160 acres for his wife, if married—or as he marries within one year after settling—the latter to inure to the wife in her own right, and to descend to her children.

Jenny Lind and the Blind. Jenny Lind visited the Asylum for the Blind, in New York, on Thursday, and sang a couple of songs for the unfortunate creatures, which greatly pleased them.

Great Feat at Corn Husking. The German town Telegraph publishes a certificate, signed by four persons, which states that Robert S. Blake, of Fox-Chase, Philadelphia County, in nine hours, thirty-five minutes and thirty seconds, on the 9th of November, husked one hundred and two bushels of shelled corn, and that he performed his work in a neat and workmanlike manner.

Poisoned. The family of Mrs. Swishelm, of the Pittsburgh Saturday Visitor, consisting of eleven persons, were poisoned last week by some person or persons unknown. Prompt relief was given, and it is thought that all will recover.

Slaves Landed. Mrs. Darumont, better known as Fanny Wright, has, it is said, just liberated some three hundred plantation slaves. They were all her own property, and resided on a plantation near Memphis, which she owns.

Postmasters. There are in the United States eighty-one women holding the office of Postmaster.

An aged Voter. The Northampton Gazette says that on the day of the State election, Peter Priney, an Englishman, of that town, aged one hundred and five years, voted the whig ticket, being the first vote he ever cast. He presented himself to vote last year, but he had not then been taxed.

Fire at Waterville. The dwelling house of Capt. Thomas Marston was entirely consumed by fire on Friday morning, 8th inst., together with a portion of the furniture and some adjoining buildings. The fire took in an adjacent building. Loss \$1200—insurance \$600.

Cholera in Annapolis. The cholera has broken out at Annapolis, Md., and two members of the Reform Convention died. The Convention was about adjourning on the 15th, in consequence.

Death of Richard M. Johnson. The telegraph announces the death of Col. Richard M. Johnson, late Vice President of the United States, and familiarly known as "Old Tecumseh." He died at his residence at Louisville, on the 19th inst.

Morgans. At last accounts, Salt Lake Valley, the centre of the Mormon Empire in the far west contained a population of from 23,000 to 25,000. Large additions by emigration are constantly made.

Engineer of the Road. Capt. George S. Greene, having been re-appointed Engineer of the Kennebec and Portland Railroad, by the Directors, has entered upon the duties of his office.

New Hampshire Constitutional Convention. The committee have reported unanimously in favor of striking out the religious test, and the proper qualification for office.

Copper Mining. One thousand operatives will be employed this winter in the copper mines of Lake Superior.

Fatal Accident.

On Tuesday afternoon last an Irishman named Donnelly, employed in H. I. Kendall & Co's Soap and Candle Factory on the corner of Cogan and Friendship streets, fell into a tub of hot lime water, in that establishment, and was so badly scalded that he died yesterday morning. He was a young man and resided on Clifford street. [Providence Post.]

Quick Passage. The Providence Journal notices the trip of the ship Pointer, which made the passage from New York to Providence in seventeen hours. The Journal says this is believed to be unsurpassed in the navigation of the Sound.

Governor of New York. We have at last the official returns of the late Election, and Washington Hunt, who is, surely elected Governor by a majority of 247. The other state officers are Democrats.

WATERFORD WATER CURE ESTABLISHMENT. The Hydrophobic Institute at Waterford has been closed for the present. It will be enlarged, and re-opened in the Spring.

Great Fire in Medford.

A fire broke out in Medford, Mass., on Thursday last, which destroyed property to the amount of about \$75,000. Many families, by this fire, have lost all their worldly possessions. The rapidity of the flames, in consequence of a strong wind blowing at the time, made it impossible in many cases to save scarcely any property. The Boston Bee says:

"The fire was first discovered issuing from a stable on the 'Grege estate,' occupied by Frederick Edgely, on the westerly side of Maine street, and next to the Myrtle river bridge. The flames soon communicated with the large dwelling house, owned by Mrs. J. B. Gregg, and occupied by some twenty or more Irish families, numbering in all over one hundred souls. The rapid progress of the flames, that the occupants of this house, among whom were a host of children, had barely time to escape with their lives, and many with no clothing whatever, except their night garments."

According to the Journal, from Mrs. Gregg's house the flames speedily communicated to the blacksmith's shop owned and occupied by Henry F. Moore, which was soon laid in ruins. The next building adjoining, was a house owned by James Goring, and occupied by Charles Barker, which, together with a stable in the rear, shared the same fate as the others. A house and store, owned by Mr. Eastman of New Hampshire, and by George Simms, and occupied by the latter, next fell prey to the devouring element, as did also a barn in the rear, owned by the same parties, and occupied by Ebenezer Lovering.

A large dwelling house, owned and occupied by Misses Hannah and Emily Tufts, and also a wheelwright's shop, occupied by Richard Tufts, were the next buildings on the same side of the street, which were wholly destroyed. Mr. Richardson, hatter had his house and shop burnt to the ground.

On the opposite side of the street, the flames communicated to the dwelling house and blacksmith's shop next to the bridge, owned and occupied by Nathan W. Waite and son, which were wholly consumed, together with a very valuable collection of curiosities, some of which were of very ancient origin. Two houses, owned and occupied by Elias Tufts and son, were the next buildings burnt. The destruction of these was followed by the burning of a house and grocery store, owned by Daniel Lawrence, and occupied by Dudley Hadley and James Hyde, grocers, who lived in the same building. A shop and house, owned by Mr. Willis, and occupied by Mr. Henry Forbes. A one story house and barn, owned by Henry Mitchell, barber; and a building owned by Mr. Cabbot, and occupied by Messrs. Merrill & Son, painters, and a harness-maker; and a building occupied as a store-house, in rear of the street.

There were several stable and buildings burnt, many of which were of little value. Besides the above, many other houses were partially burnt.

Oxen, horses, swine, &c., perished in the flames. Also many wagons, harnesses, &c. The insurance on the property destroyed, so far as we have been able to ascertain, is as follows:—At the Citizens' Mutual office, Brighton—Timothy Cotting, \$1,500; Henry Mitchell, \$500; James Hyde, \$1000.

At the Middlesex Mutual office, Concord—Elias Tufts, \$1,600; J. B. Gregg's estate, \$1,100; Hannah and Emily Tufts, \$1,150; Henry Forbes, \$1,100; James Hyde, \$900; Gilbert M. Parker, \$685; Ann W. Waite, \$575.

The light of the fire was seen at a great distance, and caused many engines from neighboring towns to repair to the scene.

We heard of only one or two accidents which occurred at the fire. An old man named Muler, who lived in the 'Grege house,' in his haste to escape fell into the flames and was badly burnt. A fireman named William Davis fell from a building, and his back was seriously injured. Another fireman, whose name we did not learn, had his foot badly cut by an axe falling from a timber which he was in the act of cutting away.

The cause of the fire is not known. Many think, however, that it was the diabolical work of an incendiary."

AMERICAN TRADE WITH CHINA. A San Francisco letter of Sept. 17th, says:

"The amount of remittances to China from this port, beginning in 1867, has been \$1,000,000. Vessels depart weekly, and the consumption of China fabrics used here is immense. One large commission house states that their average remittance monthly for several months last past is fully equal to the sum of one hundred and fifty thousand Mexican dollars. Other houses combined may perhaps say a much more, and in this way their currency is becoming more and more difficult to obtain for the ordinary transactions of the city."

THE LARGEST SHIP IN THE DISTRICT. Launched from the yard of Master Samuel Dunning, in Brunswick, on the 6th inst., a fine ship of eleven hundred tons, called the *Conqueror*. She is owned by Master Dunning and Capt. Charles Boutelle, of Brunswick, who is to command her. For strength of material and fastening, and beauty of finish, she is pronounced by judges a very superior vessel. We think this must be the largest vessel ever built in the district—at least since the revolution. [Portland Advertiser.]

CONSTITUTION OF CONNECTICUT. The people of Connecticut have recently voted upon two proposed amendments to the Constitution of the State, the first providing for the election of Probate Judges by the people, and the second providing for the election of Justices of the Peace by the people. The vote, although very tight, decided in favor of the amendments. On the first question, the vote was 11,974 yeas, and 1,359 nays; on the second, 11,572 yeas, and 1,305 nays.

NEW STEAMER. Another steamer for the Pacific, called the *Sea Bird*, was launched in New York, Wednesday. She is 500 tons burthen; is 170 feet long, 27 feet beam, and 10 feet hold. She left her ways with all her furniture and machinery, and with her steam up, immediately after launching the water, strained down the river and out into the bay on a trial trip. She was two miles across the bay, and was off Governor's Island, but passed her at the lower landing, Staten Island.

TRUE HEROISM. On the occasion of the late breaking down of the trestle-work over the Waterville, on the line of the Camden Railway, a conductor, fearing that a passenger train that was approaching would run into a chasm, scolded as he crawled along the broken timber a considerable distance, and succeeded in making signals, which prevented any subsequent disaster. This is a real act of heroism, exhibited under circumstances of a peculiarly trying nature, yet nobody thinks it worth while to learn the name of the actor. It is vaguely given, with a "we believe his name is Spell." Had he been a military hero, who had destroyed a thousand lives, his name and fame would have been blazoned abroad, and inscribed upon the pages of the *Philadelphia Ledger*.

Penobscot and Kennebec Railroad.

We are requested to state that the parties, who have in charge the management of the affairs of the Penobscot and Kennebec Railroad, propose to make a definitive location of the line during the present year, as required by the charter. Surveys were made in 1847 and 1848 for a route through the Sebasticook valley, and more recently a line has been surveyed through Dixmont and Unity, and another line through St. Albans, Dexter, &c.

We are informed that by either route a good line can be formed, and the difference in distance between the two first named is but a few miles only.

In order to act understandingly in the matter, it may become necessary to survey both lines anew, and possibly examine a still farther route through Plymouth and Etna.

For the purpose of giving a fair hearing to all parties interested—those reading on the line, at each terminus, and on the competing lines from Portland to the Kennebec valley; it is proposed to take up conditional subscriptions to stock on each route, at Bangor, Waterville, Augusta, &c., and books of subscription will be prepared for this purpose.

Those who desire the line located in the Sebasticook valley, will subscribe upon the condition of its being so located,—those desiring the southern route, through Dixmont, &c., will subscribe on the condition of its location on the general line surveyed through Dixmont, Unity, &c., and the same of the next southern route through St. Albans and Dexter.

It is proposed also to take effect of the right of way, on the different lines, so that in a proper equitation of all the points of difficulties or of advantage, the best conclusions can be reached. Should the two short lines be found on close examination to be nearly on a par, when all the engineering points are fairly compared, the amount of comparative subscription to stock or in the case of lands would necessarily have an important influence upon the decision of the question of the route. We would therefore advise the friends of each route to test the question. Again the question of connection at the Kennebec river, becomes important to the two roads, and from thence to Portland. This necessarily involves the question of gauge. This question may have to be settled in the same way as the question of route. The friends of the narrow gauge to Augusta must bid sharp or they may be surpassed in their exertions by the friends of the broad gauge from Waterville to Portland. We understand conditional subscriptions will be taken at Bangor, as well as at other points on the Portland, with a view to test the strength of these two interests, and the feelings at Bangor upon the question of "gauge," "through route," &c., &c.

This seems to

